United States Department of Agriculture **Forest Service** **NA**

File Code: 3460 **Date:** February 13, 1998
Route To:

Subject: History of Gypsy Moth Trapping, Wayne NF, 1991-1997

To: Forest Supervisor, Wayne National Forest

Future infestations of the gypsy moth, Lymantria dispar (Linneaus), in the oak-hickory forests of southeastern Ohio represent one of the priority forest health issues identified by the Wayne National Forest. This memo addresses this issue by presenting historical data about the gypsy moth pheromone trapping in Ohio during the 1990's.

Phil Perry, WNF Silviculturist, requested that Forest Health Protection determine which administrative units of the WNF are most likely to experience gypsy moth infestations during the next several years. This depends on many factors, including the availability of preferred host tree species, and the rate of gypsy moth spread from infested forests situated to the east and northeast. Gypsy moth spread can be monitored by annually deploying gypsy moth pheromone traps to catch male moths. When summarized by counties, male trap catches can provide a measure for comparing gypsy moth population status among broad geographical areas, such as the administrative units of the WNF. Trends in the catches for these areas should help identify which units are most likely to experience gypsy moth infestations before other units. However, the catches cannot identify when infestations will occur nor their intensity in specific forest stands.

Gypsy moth pheromone trapping results over the seven years (1991-1997) were summarized for each of the twelve southeastern Ohio counties where the WNF is located. The male trap data were collected annually through the Ohio Cooperative Gypsy Moth Program, between the USDA, APHIS, and Ohio Department of Agriculture . Allen Baumgard, ODA Gypsy Moth Program Manager, each year compiled the statewide male gypsy moth pheromone trap results (male moths caught and traps set) and displayed these by Ohio counties. A map showing the Ohio 1997 Gypsy Moth Pheromone Trap Results is attached. The data on the annual maps were used to calculate an average number of male moths caught per trap each year for each county. These averages are presented in the summary table attached to this memo and provide annual gypsy moth population status and trend information.

A comparison of annual results among administrative units of the Wayne National Forest indicate that the gypsy moth is currently most abundant in the Marietta Unit where it has increased each year from 1991 through 1995, but remained static thereafter, However, gypsy moth populations were high enough in Monroe County in 1996 for USDA, APHIS PPQ to include this county in the gypsy moth quarantine. Likewise, populations have remained about the same for the last three years in Noble and Washington Counties, but below densities that would necessitate a quarantine.

Elsewhere in the Ohio counties covering the Wayne National Forest, the gypsy moth status over the last eight years has varied from scarce in the Athens Unit to undetectable in the Ironton Unit.

Morgan and Perry Counties both saw, on two occasions, a very small increase for one year only to be followed by a decline the next year. Gypsy moth populations in all of the southernmost Ohio counties have remained virtually undetectable over the last seven years.

Conclusions as to where the infestations are most likely to develop can only be generalized from the data presented in this memo because the male moth data was collected over an entire county. In general, it seems that the gypsy moth generally poses more of a short term threat to develop an infestation in the oak-hickory forests in the northern portions of WNF (Marietta Unit) rather than elsewhere on the WNF (Athens and Ironton Units). However, specific information as where and when an infestation would occur and how it might impact any forest ecosystems requires more specific data about the forest tree species present and their vigor condition.

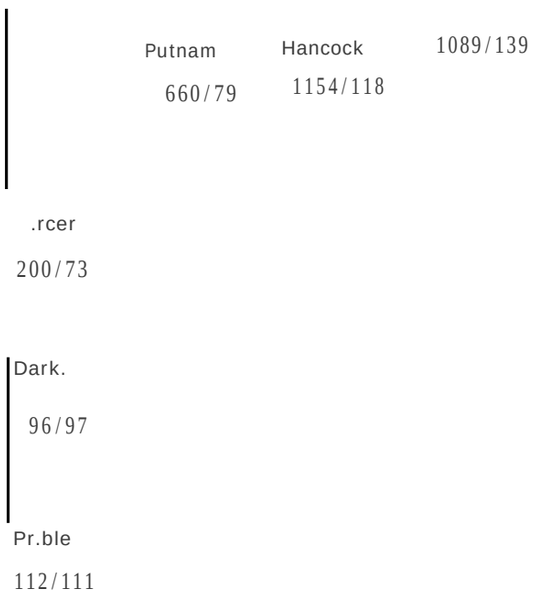
Future gypsy moth pheromone trapping will be conducted in the southeastern Ohio counties, but no pheromone traps will be sent to Phil Perry specifically for the WNF. During 1998, trapping will be done under the cooperative gypsy moth program between USDA, APHIS and ODA. Starting in 1999, trapping will most likely be under the auspices of the USDA, Slow the Spread (STS) Program. We will share the 1998 trapping results with your staff later this year and keep you informed about STS as planning details for it develop.

DANIEL B. TWARDUS
Acting Field Representative
Forest Health Protection

Enclosures (Ohio Map and Trapping Summary)

cc: Phil Perry
Russ McKinney
Athens Ranger District
Marietta Unit-Athens Ranger District
Ironton Ranger District
Allen Baumgard
Amy Onken
John Omer
Noel Schneeberger

Ohio - 1997 Gypsy Moth Pheromone Traps Results



Quarantined Counties

Finds / # Traps

Summary of Gypsy Moth Male Trapping Results, Wayne National Forest from 1991 through 1997 for Ohio Counties by WNF Administrative Unit

Wayne National Forest	Average Number of Male Moths Per Trap per Year						
Ohio	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Marietta Unit							
Monroe Co.	2.0	5.6	8.2	4.7	35.7	Q	Q
Noble Co.	<1	<1	6.7	3.2	13.2	18.8	15.9
Washington Co.	<1	<1	1.6	<1	2.3	1.9	2.5
Athens Unit							
Athens Co.	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Hocking Co.	<1	<1	1.0	<1	<1	1.0	<1
Morgan Co.	<1	<1	1.9	<1	<1	3.1	<1
Perry Co.	<1	<1	2.3	<1	1.5	1.9	1.2
Vinton Co.	0	0	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Ironton Unit							
Gallia Co.	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	1.2	<1
Jackson Co.	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Lawrence Co.	0	0	0	NT	<1	<1	<1
Scioto Co.	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

NT = Not Trapped for unspecified reasons
Q = Quarantined County where gypsy moth is considered established

Date: March 22, 1996 S&PF-CF-21

FOREST SERVICE
BRIEFING PAPER
FY 1997 BUDGET REQUEST

Topic: Eastern Ohio Conservation Center

Issue: Initial Funding for a Center of Excellence
Submitted by Northeastern Area

Budget History:

FY 1995 Final	FY 1996 Conference ($ in thousands)	FY 1997 Estimate	Add'l Needs Identified by NE Area
0	0	150 (NA $)	150

Key Points:

- The President's proposed FY 1997 budget for State and Private Forestry includes funds for the establishment of a conservation center for eastern Ohio. Funds are derived from Urban and Community Forestry: Stewardship and Stewardship Incentive programs; Forest Health Management Cooperative Lands and Rural Fire Protection and Control.

- The center will focus upon: forest health management issues, particularly the leading edge of the gypsy moth; fire training for State personnel and rural volunteer fire departments; private landowner education and program outreach; urban/wildland interface issues; urban and community forest resources and needs; Project Learning Tree; and state forest management.

- Federal funds in FY 1997 will be used as seed money to establish professional staff; equipment and supplies; develop a master plan; and initiate programs and technology transfer.

- The center will establish a network of citizens and practitioners concerned with sound forest management, and will identify information needs, facilitate and support forest health activities, and disseminate information and technology transfer on forest management.

- The center is scheduled to be located on the Mohican State Forest, an area that receives high recreation and visitor use.

- The center has the support of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and is slated to receive State matching funds.

MEMBER NAME: Representative Ralph Regula (R-OH)